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U.S. DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MASS

January 18, 2005

AUSA Peter Levitt
United States Attorneys Office
1 Courthouse Way, Suite 9200
Boston, MA 02210

RE: **UNITED STATES V. EDWIN SERRANO**
NO. 04 10044

Dear Mr. Levitt:

Pursuant to Local Rule 116.3 (A) the defendant respectfully requests discovery notice as to any informers in this case as follows:

1. All informer proffers leading to leniency agreements or agreements not to prosecute;
2. Any information revealing any variation in the proffered testimony;
3. Any information that reveals the nature of the negotiations that led to leniency agreements or agreements to not prosecute;
4. Any proffers made by informers' lawyers;
5. Any notes or documents created by the government reflecting defense proffers, testimonial variations, and the nature of the negotiation process leading to the informer's leniency. [*United States v. Sudikoff*, 36 F.Supp. 2d 1196 (C.D. Cal. 1999)]

Further, pursuant to Local Rule 116.3 (A) the defendant respectfully requests discovery notice in regard to notice of the Government's intention to use the Residual Hearsay Exception Under Federal Rule of Evidence 807. Namely the defendant seeks the Government to provide notice of its intent to offer any statement, not specifically covered by the hearsay exceptions set forth in Rules 803(1) through (23) and 804(b)(1) through (4) but having equivalent circumstantial guarantees of trustworthiness, and to provide notice of the particulars of this statement, including the name and address of the declarant.

AUSA Peter Levitt

January 18, 2005

Page 2

Additionally, the defendant pursuant to Local Rule 116.3 (A) requests the following:

I. Federal Rule of Evidence 404(b):

1. The existence of any prior or subsequent bad acts, if any, [see United States v Tuesta - Toro, 29 F.3d 771 (1st Cir., 1994) cert.denied 513 U.S. 1132, 115 S.Ct. 947, 130 L.Ed.2 890 and United States v. Trenkler, 61 F.3d 45 (1st Cir., 1995)] or convictions of:
 - a. defendant;
 - b. any co-defendants, whether indicted or not;
 - c. any co-conspirator, whether indicted or not.
2. A statement of whether the government intends to offer, under Fed. R. Evid. 404(b) as set forth above in 1 (a) through (c), evidence of any such prior or subsequent bad acts, if any, against the defendant, or any other co-defendants during the trial of this Indictment, together with a description of the method or means by which the government intends to introduce such evidence, including but not limited to:
 - a. providing the names and addresses of all witnesses which the government intends to call to offer such evidence. United States v King, 121 F.R.D. 277,281 (E.D.N.C. 1988); United States v Baum, 482 F.2d 1325, 1332 (2d Cir. 1973); See also United States v Turkish, 458 F.Supp. 874 (S.D.N.Y. 1978), aff'd., 623 F.2d 769 (2d Cir. 1980); United States v Price, 448 F.Supp. 503, 505 (D. Colo. 1978); United States v Shoher, 555 F.Supp. 346, 354 (S.D.N.Y. 1983);
 - b. the dates, times, places, and persons involved in said "other crimes, wrongs or acts";
 - c. any statements of any participant in "other crimes, wrongs or acts";
 - d. the issue or issues on which the government relies in its contention that such "other crimes, wrongs or acts" evidence is relevant and admissible under Fed.R.Evid. 404(b). United States v Roybel, 566 F.2d 1109 (9th Cir. 1978); United States v Stofsky, 409 F.Supp. 609 (S.D.N.Y. 1973).
3. Any documents, reports or statements of any such witness relating to, referencing, or regarding such bad acts or convictions, including when the documents were prepared, who prepared the document and who has possession of the documents. See, e.g., United States v Baum, 482 F.2d at 1332.

AUSA Peter Levitt

January 18, 2005

Page 3

4. If the government intends to seek the admission into evidence of "other crimes, wrongs, or acts" of defendant, defendant requests, pursuant to Fed. R. Evid. 404 (b), that the government provide in writing no later than ten days prior to the start of the trial, see United States v. Williams, 792 F. Supp. 1120, 1133 (S.D. Ind. 1992) (ordering disclosure within 10 days prior to trial:

- a. the general nature of any such evidence, including the date, time, place, and a brief description of the alleged crime, wrong, or act, see United States v. Baum, 482 F.2d 1325 (2d Cir. 1973); and
- b. the identity of the witness(es) it intends to present with respect to such "other crimes, wrongs, or acts." Id. at 1331-32.

Fed. R. Evid. 404 (b) is intended to reduce surprise and promote early resolution of the issue of admissibility. Because reasonable, pre-trial disclosure "serves as a condition precedent to admissibility of [Rule] 404 (b) evidence, the offered evidence is inadmissible if the court decides that the notice requirement has not been met" either in the sufficiency of the advance notice or the particularity of the disclosure. See Fed. R. Evid. 404, Advisory Committee Notes, to 1991 Amendments.

II. Federal Rule of Evidence 608(b):

1. To provide evidence of any "specific instances of conduct" of the defendant as that phrase is used in Fed.R.Evid. 608(b).
2. In regard to such notice, the government should identify and describe:
 - a. the dates, times, places and persons involved in "specific acts of conduct";
 - b. the statements of each participant in any "specific acts of conduct"; and
 - c. the documents which contain or evidence any "specific acts of conduct", including when the documents were prepared, who prepared the document and who has possession of the documents.

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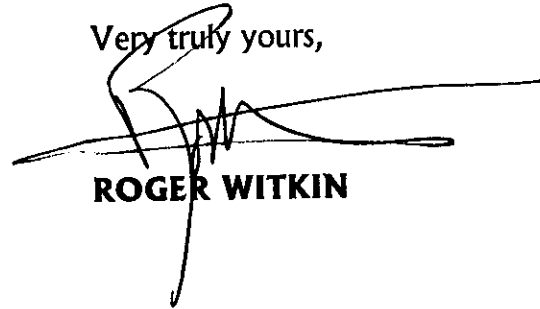
January 18, 2005

Page 4

III. Federal Rule of Evidence 609:

To state whether or not you intend to offer any evidence of any prior criminal conviction of the accused, should he testify, pursuant to Fed.R.Evid. 609, and, if so, to state the particulars of the conviction if any.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RW", with a long horizontal line extending to the right and a vertical line extending downwards.

ROGER WITKIN

/slw

c.c. client

Rex Brown, Courtroom Clerk for Honorable Joyce London Alexander,
United States Courthouse, One Courthouse Way, Boston MA 02210

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